THE DEMOCRATIC RUSH FOR PLACE; & HORDE OF HUNGRY APPLICANTS PRESSING THEIR

CLAIMS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Dec. 4.—The Democratic statesmen who have come to Washington to serve their country as members of the House of Representatives find themselves confronted at the outset with a grave question —the distribution of patronage. They held a caucus about it last night, and agreed to shift the burden to the sulders of the House officials, but bright and early this morning most of them discovered this to be a useless attempt. The reason is obvious— For each one of the seven-score places there are from ten to twenty greedy applicants; the competition is fierce and the struggle is already becoming painful. Nowhere is the Democratic Congressman safe from importunities, appeals, even threats, unless he promises to use his "influence" in behalf of a dozen or two of his constituents. Sented in the House he fluds that cards and messages from the corridors succeed each other with disagreeable and menotonous rapidity; he is waylaid and buttonholed in the streets and other public places, and besieged in his lodgings. Even his bedchamber is invaded by the mere pertinacious of his tormentors. If he goes down to the House early, hoping to escape, he finds the hungry office-

seekers there in force. For an hour this morning, before the floor of the House was cleared of all except members and officials, it was thronged with wild-eyed, anxious-looking men, many of whom had petitions which they were imploring the Democratic Congressmen present to sign. One man wanted to open and shut doors; other desired a congenial field for his abilities in the folding-room; a third would be content if he could be permitted to file the bills of the Nation; a fourth aspired to a clerkship, while a fifth, more modest in his ambition, would willingly build fires or carry messages, all for a good salary. After the clerk and other officers had been elected, they came forward to be sworn and, except the chapiain, who has no places in his gift, they were a haged, weary group of men. Evidently they had slept little since the caucus of Saturday night.

It was noted that two of them, who were able to take the "ironclad" oath, have been called to offices which have little patronage, while the Clerk and the Doorkeeper, who have the appointment of about eleven-twelfths of the subordinate employes, took the modified oath, as also

The anxiety undergone by General Clark and Mr. Wintersmith, while they were only candidates for office, was nothing to that didates for office, was nothing to that they now experience. They have to endure not only the slings and arrows of outrageous office-seekers, but the importunities of Congressmen who voted for them and are careful that they shall not forget it. A few of the Congressmen complain of the annoyance and harrassment to which they are subjected by the wild scramble for place which is now in progress, but many more submit grace-which is now in progress, but many more submit grace-which is now in progress, but many more submit grace-fully and will maintain their composure until they fail to get these man in, when they will rail most loudly against fate and refuse to be comforted. On a small scale the present struggle fairly foreshadows the tremendous onshaught that will be made on every department of the Government if the Democrats shall win the Presidency next year.

THE COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE.

ACTION BY THE CAUCUS-REORGANIZATION PRO-POSED AND OPPOSED. BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The Republican Senators met in caucus shortly before noon to-day and appointed a committee consisting of Senators Cameron, of Wisconsin, chairman; Ingalis, Hoar, Hale, Miller, of California, and Miller, of New-York, to reorganize the committees of the Senate, assign the new Senators to respective places on them, and to redistribute the chairman

While no formal discussion regarding the reorganiza While no formal discussion regarding the reason tion of the Senate took place, there was some exchange of opinions in view of the fact that the Democrats of the House had made a clean sweep of the offices at their disposal. Senator Logan especially favored an immediate reorganization and the turning out of all Democrats bolding places within the gift of the Senate. Senator Edmunds, reinforced by Messrs. Harrison, Ingalis and Plumb, strongly objected to this course. They did not consider it either consistent with the dignity of the Senate or becoming, in view of the fact that the last Congress had passed a Civil Service bill contrary to the spirit of which a course like the one proposed would certainly be. There was no reason for hastening the reorganization of the Senate, especially as all the posts were filled by men whose service had given entire satisfaction.

It is understood that Senator Harrison has a candidate for the Secretaryship of the Senate, in the person of D. Ransdell, of Indiana, who served with distinction as a Union soldier in Harrison's regiment, the 70th Indiana, and who lost an arm in the battle of Resaca. tion of the Senate took place, there was some

MEMORIALS AND BILLS IN THE SENATE.

AND MR. SHERMAN. Washington, Dec. 4.—In the Senate to-day memorials were presented from the New-York Chamber of Commerce relating to the death of ex-Senator E. D. Morgan: from citizens of New-York, praying for the es tablishment of a Marine Hospital at that port; from the Legislature of Massachusetts, urging the passage of the French spoliation claims bill.

Mr. Edmunds introduced a bill to provide for the estabtishment of a postal telegraph and a bill to amend the laws relating to bigamy. The postal telegraph bill provides that a board consisting of the Secretary of State the Secretary of War, and the Postmaster-General, "shall cause to be located and arranged four trunk lines of postal telegraph connecting the northeastern, the northwestern, the western, southwestern, and the southern parts of the United States with the City of Washington; that along such lines offices shall be established at such places as shall be for the public interest for the time being; that from time to time the lines shall be extended tional offices established as Congress may proride: that the rates for the use of the lines shall be es lished by a board consisting of the Secretary of State, Becretary of the Treasury, and the Postmaster-General; that the lines shall be constructed and kept in repair under direction of the Secretary of War and through the corps of engineers. The Secretary of War is author ized and directed to acquire by pur-thase, subject to the approval of the President, the right of way for the construction and extension of the dnes, and for the purpose of their location he is authorized to take and use 'such lands, tenements and hereditaments as shall be necessary, and pay such compensation as shall as small be increased; any pay be deemed reasonable.' Clerks, operators, electricians and other employes are to be selected under the provisions of the Civil Service law, after examination by a Board appointed for the purpose. Two million dollars are approprinted for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1885. The working and operation of the lines are to be under the direction and charge of the Postmaster-General. Nothing in this act, however, is to be construed to prohibit individuals or corporations from carrying on the business of erating telegraph lines.

Mr. Edmunds introduced a bill to amend sections 1,756 and 1.757 of the Revised Statutes. It abolishes the iron clad oato and fixes one oath for all officers alike, saving, bowever, all provisions against rebel claims, and all penaities, etc. Mr. Edmunds also introduced a bill to pro vide for the further protection of citizens of the United States against violation of certain rights secured to them by the Constitution. The bill undertakes, Mr. Edmunds, said, to provide security for the protection of the colored citizens of the United States against inhuman, wicked eitzens of the United States against inhuman, wicked and unholy distinctions that in some of the States are still made against them in respect to their civil rights, and to protect them consistently with the late decision of the Supreme Court of the United States. He also introduced another bill, being a re-draft of a bill reported by the committee on Judichary some years ago, dealing, in general, with the rights of colored citizens, especially with the view of securing them a free vote and a fair count of all yotes.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Sherman to provide for the issue of circulation to national banking associations. It allows bills to be issued for 90 per cent of the market value of bonds instead of 90 per cent of the face value, the issue in no case to exceed 95 per cent of the market

value of bonds instead of 90 per cent of the face value, the issue in no case to exceed 95 per cent of the market value.

Bills were also introduced to remove certain limitation of the arrears of pension act; amending that section of the Revised Statutes which relates to the election of United States Senators; providing for the removal of all disabilities imposed by the Fourteenth Amendment; to permit American citizens to purchase foreign ships; to authorize the payment of customs duties in legal-tender notes; to establish a Bureau of Statistics of Labor under the Department of the Interior; to appropriate and expend \$00,000,000 derived from internal revenue taxes and sales of public lands for the education of children living in the United States; to reorganize the inspector General's Department of the Army; to provide for the performance of the duties of the office of President in case of the death, resignation or inability of both Fresident and Nice-President; to fix the day for the meeting of electors of President; providing for a uniform system of bankruptcy; granting pensions to certain soldiers and saliors of the Mexican War; for the establishment of a Burcau of Animal Industry; providing for pensioning prisoners of war who were confined in Confederate prisons; declaring that railroad corporations shall pay within sixty days costs of surveying and locating lands to which they are entitled, otherwise they are to be subject to State and local taxation, also to pre-emption and nomestead entry; to restore to the public domain lands domated, but not barned by railroad corporations when the roads are not shallsed within the time specified in the grant; to protect

all pre-emption and homestead entries made after forfeiture or failure to build the road within the time specified; for the relief of settlers on public lands in Nebraska
and Kansas, on the line of the Denver and St. Joseph
Raibroad; to declare certain lands heretofore
granted to railroad companies forfeited to the
United States, and to open the same to settlement; to repeal the Northern Pacific land grants,
to retire small legal-tender notes, to establish schools in
Alaska; to remove certain burdens on American merchant marine, and also to establish rules for preventing
collisions at sea and on the waters of the United States;
authorizing the construction of bridges at certain points
over the Missouri and Mississippi rivers; setting apart
certain lands near the headwaters of the Yellowstone
River as a public park; for the erection of public buildines in Jacksonvilie and Key West.

Mr. Wilson, of lowa, offered a joint resolution proposing the following smendment to the Constitution;
"Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation,
to protect citizens of the United States in the exercise and
enjoyment of their rights, privileges and immunities, and
to assure to them the equal protection of the laws."

DRAWING FOR SEATS IN THE HOUSE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The proceeding in which the newly-fledged Congressman feels as deep an interest, probably, as in any incident of his public career, and one which the most of his experienced fellows have learned to dread, took place to-day. A wooden box half-filled with small waite balls, each bearing a number, was brought, and after being well-shaken, placed on brought, and after being which stood a the Clerk's desk, behind which stood a page blindfolded. The anxious Representatives were sent to the rear of the space occupied by the desks,

and the drawing of seats began.

The page drew a ball from the box, a clerk called out the number, another clerk ran over the alphabetical list of members, and finding the corresponding number called Mr. Duncan, a new Democratic Representative from Pennsylvania, who came forward and selected a desirable seat on the east side of the hall.

At the same instant another new member came forward and selected the best seat on the Republican side. It was Mr. Dunham, of Illinois, who mistook Mr. Duncan's name for his own. The mistake was corrected, and he speedily retreated amid the jeers of his fellow-members. S. S. Cox's name was the third one called, and he was heartily applauded

as he tank into his old seat. Judge Kelly is living his seventieth year, and his name was the seventieth one called. He, too, was warmly applauded as he took the seat which he has occupied was the seventieth one called. He, too, was warminy applianded as he took the seat which he has occupied during saveral terms. He had left his hat on the desk before the drawing began and the hint was respected by his associates, although the seat is a very desirable one. The name of William Walter Phelps was called one. The name of William Walter Phelps was called early and he selected a good seat in front. The Chio men, as a rule, were lucky. One of them, J. D. Taylor, chose the seat formerly occupied by General Gardeld. Messrs, Randall, Blackburn, Reed, Morrison, Robinson, of Massachusetts, and several other leading members were also fortunate, but General Keifer was obliged to take a back seat and Mr. Hissock's name was nearly the last one called of the Republicans.

Of the Democratia Messrs, Abram S. Hewitt, Holman, Slocum and about a dozen others were unlucky and they were obliged to choose undesirable seats on the Republican side. They established themselves as near logether as possible and the group has already been named the "Democratic Annex." The last name to be called was that of Mr. Lovering, a new Democratic member from Massachusetts. With a full house the members with a few exceptions are packed almost as closely as eggs in a basket, and already a strong sentiment has developed in favor of the removal of the desks which fill about one-third of the space allotted to members.

THE HOUSE ORGANIZATION COMPLETED. Wasinhoron, Dec. 4 .- In the House, to-day, when the nominations for minor officers were in order Mr. Geddes, of Ohio, offered a resolution for the election of the following officers: For clerk, J. B. Clark, of Missouri; for sergeant-at-Arms, John P. Leedom, of Ohio; for doorkeeper, J. G. Wintersmith, of Texas; for postmaster, Lycurgus Dalton, of Indiana; for chaplain, the Rev. Dr. John S. Lindsay, of the District of Columbia. Mr. Cannon, of Illinois, offered a substitute for the elec-Mr. Cannou, of Illinois, offered a substitute for the elec-tion of the following: For clerk, E. McPherson, of Pennsylvania; for sergeant-at-arms, G. W. Hooker, of Vermont; for doorkeeker, W. P. Brownlow, of Tennos-see; for postmaster, George McNiet, of Minnesota; for chaplain, the nev. F. D. Power, of Virginia. The substitute was lost and the original resolution having been adopted, the elected officers came forward and qualified.

A COMPLAINT FROM TEXAS. WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The memorial was presented in the Senate this afternoon by Senator Coke, relating to alleged abuses in the United States District Courts of Texas. It is signed by A. J. Evans, United States Attorney of that State for the Western district. It sets forth that the United States District judges of Texas are failing to hold the terms of their courts as fixed by law; and they are appointing their sons, sons-in-law and brother-in-law to the places of District and Deputy Disoromer-in-law to the places of District and Deputy Dis-trict Clerks in their courts and keeping them in office, to the great wrong of the public. Among other illustrations of the charges made, the memorralist mentions the fact that the United States District Judge for the Western District of the State has in the last three years held only two terms of court, when he should have held six, and that for this negligence there was no cood cause.

TO DEFINE CONFEDERATE CRUISERS.

Washington, Dec. 4 .- A bill was introduced n the Senate to-day by Mr. Lapham, of Newdefining the words "Confederate cruisers' the act of June 5, 1882, establishing Court of Alabama Claims, to mean any organized expedition fitted out under the orders or direction of the IMPORTANT MEASURES PROPOSED BY MR. EDMUNDS | Confederate Navy Department, although such expedition had no ship or vessel at the time the damage was done. The bill also contained a provision for a rehearing of any case involving this question heretofore heard before this Court.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Washington, Tuesday, Dec. 4, 1883. THE MEXICAN BORDER QUARANTINE.-The Surgeon-Ger THE MEXICAL BORDER QUARANTISK.—The Surgeon-tien eral of the Marine Hospital Service has received a report from Surgeon Main at Brewnsville, Tex., saying that the quarantine there was raised November 15, the last fifteen days being merely a quarantine of observation, as yellow fever had by that time ceased to be epidemic.

THE PRESIDENT IN THE WHITE HOUSE.—The President has given up his residence at the Soldiers' Home and is fully installed in the White House for the winter. It is expected that Mrs. McElroy and other relatives will spend the holiday season at the White House.

THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD.—Captain William P. McCanz has been ordered to duty as a member of the Light-House board, vice Commodore John Lee Davis, who has been ordered to command the Asiatic station. MEETING OF THE CABINET. - The Cabinet meeting to-day

was short and and unimportant. All the members were present except the Attorney-General, who was engaged in a cause before the United States Supreme Court. PATENT DECISIONS .- The Commissioner of Patents has decided that a party is bound by all the acts of his agent made in good faith and within the scope of his authority. He also holds that the cancellation of certain claims in an original application does not constitute inadvertence, ac-cident or unistake, and an application for reissue the pur-pose of which is to renew such claims cannot be allowed.

INCLIGIBLE ON ACCOUNT OF SEX .- The Solicitor of the Treasury will make an adverse report on the application of Mrs. stary A. Müler, of New-Orleans, for a license as master of a steamboat.

THE COURT OF CLAIMS.-The Court of Claims has or ganized for the winter, and the hearing of the Choctaw case was begun to-day. Justice Weldon, the new member of the Court, has not yet taken his seat.

DIMES FOR THE PACIFIC COAST .- The Secretary of the Treasury has authorized the superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco to purchase silver bullion for coinage into dimes to the amount of \$40,000, for circulation on the Pacific Coast, where there is a great Gemand for small coins.

A VERDICT UPON THE DANVILLE RIOT. THE GRAND JURY FIND THAT THE SHEEP THREATEN

THE WOLVES, DANVILLE, Va., Dec. 4.—The Grand Jury charged with the investigation of the recent riot this afternoon reported that they had no presentments to make, and submitted the following paper :

afternoon reported that they had no presentments to make, and submitted the following paper:

It appears to the jury, who have examined forty witnesses, white and colored, the larger proportion being colored, that on the 3d day of November, in the afternoon of that day, a fight occurred on Main-st, between C. D. Noell (white), and Hence Lawson (colored): that after the fight was over and the combatants were separated by the efforts of the colored policeman Adams, a white man named Lea and others, there was a determination on the part of the crowd of negroes assembled to intimidate the whites by threats and menaces; that the efforts of Policemen Adams, Freeman and Withers, and citizens Corbin, Oliver, Calloway, colored, and others, were unsuccessful in prevailing upon the crowd of negroes to disperse; that they persisted in remaining upon the scene of the fight and giving expression to remarks calculated to excite the passions of the whites; that at last the whites fired off their pistols in the air, hoping thereby to cause the crowd to disperse; that the negroes did not then disperse, but rushed upon the scene from all quarters, advancing upon the whites with drawn pistols; that fing thereupon commenced; that the whites need their firearms in defence of their lives, which were in imminent danger, and by their courage and pluck in standing up against such odds saved the lives of hundreds of people in this city, and this is the unanimous sense of the jury.

## A REGIMENTAL MONUMENT.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 4.-The 17th Regiment, C. V., which was mustered into service in 1862, and of which General W. H. Noble, of this city, was Colonel, met with its heaviest loss at Gettysburg. July 4, 1863. To the memory of comrades who fell on that date it is proposed to erect a monument at a cost of \$1,500; and members of the regiment are now raising funds for that purpose. Ten companies are expected to supply \$250 each. The monument will be of Westerly granite, in the form of a sarcophagus. There will be decorations and appropriate inscriptions; and the name of every comrate who fell at Gettysburg will be on the stone. When completed the work will weigh seven tons. It will be conveyed to Gettysburg, and on July 4, 1884—twenty-one years after the battle, and on the exact spot where it occurred—will be dedicated with appropriate ceremonics.

## RAILWAY INTERESTS.

THE CENTRAL AND WEST SHORE. Boston, Dec. 4.-The Fitchburg Railroad Company received a notice on Saturday from the New-York Central Railway of an intention on the part of that railroad to withdraw its freight traffic from the Hoosac Tunnel line. At the same time a thirty days' notice was received that no through passenger cars would be received by the New-York Central road from the Tunnel line, the Fitchburg, and the Troy and Boston Railroad.

This action of Mr. Vanderbilt will result in cementing the connection between the Fitchburg and West Sho reads, and in some respects the former read will be the gainer; for between Boston and Buffalo the distance will be twenty-six miles shorter than by way of the Boston be twenty-six miles shorter than by way of the Boston and Albany and New-York Central to the same points. Officials of the Fitchburg claim that this action of Mr. Vanderbilt is intended as a punishment to their road for the independent position its management has always taken in receiving traffic by way of the Tunnel from all connections offering it, instead of confining itself to concessions from the New-York Central. This policy was forced upon the Fitchburg road by the State, which claimed that the Hoosac Tunnel should be made available to all roads seeking a connection with Boston by way of the Tunnel.

TROY, N. Y., Dec. 4.-An official of the Troy and Boston Railroad said to-day: "I do not believe that the New-York Central road will carry out its notice of a withdrawal of freight traffic and through passenger traffic rom the Troy and Boston road. A notice was given a few days ago that through traffic would be withdrawn from the Tunnel Line on March 1, and that the Wagner cars would be taken from the line on January 1. There has been no disruption of the relations between the Fitch-burg road and Central road, only as in specified things regarding the Tunnel Line. The real antagonism of the Central road is against the Fitchburg road on account of its connection with the Erie and thus with the West Shore road. I have not heard before of the withdrawal of traffic from our road and do not believe it."

Railroad men regard the notice of withdrawal from the Hoosac Tunnel fast freight line given by the New-York Central Railroad as its first blow against the New-York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad. It is generally understood that the West Shore road when it is erally understood that the West Shore road when it is opened to Buffalo will be given a Boston connection over the Pitchburg road, which is one of the principal roads in the Hoosac Tunnel line. Of course such an alliance would tend to increase the importance of that line as a competitor with the Boston and Albany. The close alliance between the Boston and Albany and the New-York Central system makes their interests identical. Hence the Boston and Albany, which works exclusively for the Central, demanded that its ally should not help with business a rival route like the Hoosac Tunnel, and the New-York Central was glad of an opportunity to cripple the West Shore as much as possible at the start by withdrawing the western connections of the Fitchburg road as a punishment for the latter's proposed arrangement with the West Shore. Besides the New-York Central, the Lake Shore, the Michigan Central, the Canada Southern, the Cieveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis, and the Indianapolis and St. Louis roads will withdraw from the Hoosac Tunnel line on March 1, 1834. All these roads contributed from one-half to three-quarters of the total number of cars in the tunnel line. The only western road left in the line directly connecting with the West Shore is the Great Western of Canada. Friends of the New-York Central say that its action will virtually kill the Hoosac Tunnel line, as the Grand Trunk of Canada is not likely to give business to the Fitchburg road, over the West Shore, to the detriment of their own independent New-England lines. opened to Buffalo will be given a Boston connection over

NEW-YORK AND NEW-ENGLAND TICKET. At a meeting of some of the prominent stockholders of the New-York and New-England Railroad Com-pany yesterday, the following ticket was agreed on for the annual meeting: William T. Hart, Eustace C. Fitz, Jonas H. French, W. F. Sayles, Jesso Metcalf, Frederick J. Kingsbury, George M. Landers, Russell Sage, Cyrus W Field, Hugh J. Jewett, George B. Roberts, Jay Gould, C. P. Clark, Thomas Nickerson, George G. Haven, Charles G. Francklyn, F. L. Higginson, H. C. Robinson and W. S. Webb. The former members of the board who are left out of this ticket are President James H. Wilson, Henry L. Higginson, whose place is taken by Francis L. Higginson, of the same firm; W. E. Barrows, William B. Franklin, L. Grand B. Cannon, R. Suydam Grant and Sidney Dillon. The significant nominations are Charles P. Clark, second Yice-president of the New-York, New-Haven and Hartford Railroad, and W. S. Webb, a son-in-law of William H. Vanderbilt. The proposed ticket will probably be elected.

At the meeting Le Grand B. Cannon, who was a member of the Stockholders' Committee, made objection to the nomination of Mr. Clark on the general ground that he represented a rival line. In reply, its Resell Sage said that he and the Higginsons and their friends would stand by the road because thoy fully believed in it. He declared that in his judgment Mr. Clark was the best man for president, and he referred to Mr. Clark's record while he was general manager of the road. G. Francklyn, F. L. Higginson, H. C. Robinson and W. S.

MISCELLANEOUS RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE. NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 4.-The strike of the ailway freight-handlers ended to-day, and all the strikers cturned to work.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., Dec. 4.—The Cincinnatt, Indianapolis, St. Louis and Chicago, the Wabash and Lake Eric and Western roads last night withdrew from the Lafayette pool, the Lake Eric and Western road leading the move-

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 4 .- Articles of incorporation of the Burlington, Lafayette and Western Bailroad were filed with the Secretary of State to-day. The terminial points are to be Kokomo and Veedersburg, Ind. The road is to be seventy-five miles long and will be run through Lafayette and Burlington, Ind.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

CELEBRATING THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF ITS ORGANIZATION

Philadelphia, Dec. 4.—The semi-centennial universary of the organization of the American Anti-Slavery Society was held this morning in Horticultural Hall. John Purvis, one of the three survivors of the fginal society—the others are John G. Whittler and the Rev. Dr. Furness made a prayer.

A letter from the poet Whittier was read, as were also A letter from George William Curtis, Grace Anna Lewis, Wendell Phillips, Parker Pillsbury, Samnel May, Samuel Longfellow, Francis J. G. Garrison and Oliver Wendell

The declaration of sentiments adopted by the Convention in December, 1833, was read by Caroline Spear. It says: "Submitting this declaration to the candid exam mation of the people of this country and of the friends of liberty throughout the world, we hereby affix our signaliberty throughout the world, we hereby affix our signa-tures to it, pledging ourselves that, under the guidance and by the help of Ahnighty God we will do all that in us lies, consistently with this declaration of our principles, to overthrow the most exertable system of slavery that has ever been witnessed upon earfu; to deliver our land from its deadliest curse; to wipe out the foulest stain which rests upon our national escatcheon, and to secure to the colored population of the United States all the rights and privileges, which belong to them as men and as Americans; come what may to our persons, our interests, or our reputation, whether we live to witness the triumph of liberty, justice and humanity, or perish ultimately as martyrs in this great, benevelent and holy cause." Mary Grew was introduced and made an eloquent address, and wits followed by the Rev. Charles G. Ames, who spoke of the advancement made in favor of the colored race. Susan B. Anthony also addressed the meeting.

THE DWIGHT INSURANCE CASE.

THE TESTIMONY ALL IN-MR. LAROUQUE BEGINS AN ARGUMENT.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TELBUNE.] NORWICH, N. Y., Dec. 4 .- In the Dwight ingrance case to-day, Dr. Charles H. Porter, of Albany, was recalled by the defence and asked a hypothetica estion concerning Dwight's condition, as stated by lowed between counsel as to the admissibility of the question in rebuttal testimony. The question was adcitted. In answer, the witness said the cause of death could not have been congestive chills or malarial fever. He was then asked another hypothetical question, assum ing the condition of body as proved by the plaintiff's physicians at the first autopsy, and the conditions of health before death. In answer, he said that death could health before death. In answer, he said that death could not have resulted from natural causes. The cause of death, in the opinion of the witness, was mechanical asphyxia. Another hypthetical question was propounded, assuming the conditions of body and the fact of penning down the throat a mixture, as testified to by the undertaker, Ayers, would the heart be healthy! The witness answered that it would be preserved by the liquid.

He was then asked: "Suppose the indentation on the neck was caused after death, instead of before, what would your opinion be as to the eause of death?" In reply he said it would not change his opinion. Drs. H. C. Wood, John Swinburne, G. W. Avery and Elisha H. Bridges gave the same tentimony in substance. The counsel on both sides then announced that they had no more witnesses to call. The evidence was therefore closed. Joseph Laroeque then began an argument for the dismissal of the complaint, on the ground of a breach of warranty. When the court adjourned he had not hinshed.

SUNK IN CHESAPEAKE BAY.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 4.-Captain Geoghegan of the steamer Sue, which arrived this morning, reports being in collision yesterday morning, off Lower Machodae Creek, with the schooner Julia A. Brown, Captain W. F. Ward, of Cherrystone, Va., sinking the vessel in five hithoms of water. The captain and tour of the crew were taken aboard the steamer. The schooner had a cargo of

THE CABLE GRIP PATENT INFRINGED. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4 .- The Cable Railway

Company, owners of the street car patent cable grip, the same that is used in Chleago, has begun a suit against the Market Street Cable road, owned by Stanford and Crocker, for \$100,000 damages for intringement on the

A CONNECTICUT POULTRY SHOW.

MERIDEN, Conn., Dec. 4,-The Meriden Poul-

tion, beginning Tuesday, January 1, 1884. The society is one of the best managed in the State and is noted for the liberality with which it awards premiums. Game fowls are expected to be a feature. Dogs, squirrels and foxes are admitted.

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM WALES. William Wales, of Minneapolis, for many years a prominent journalist, died in Chicago last Sunday. Formarly editor of The Nashrille Ranner, he became at a later a powerful influence in keeping Maryland in the Union. He was distinguished for his courtesy, integrity and purity of character, and for his ability as a writer; and his counsel was highly valued by President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton.

G. R. MINOT.

Boston, Dec. 4 .- G. R. Minot, of the firm of Minot, Hooper & Co., died suddenly this morning of heart disease, at the age or seventy-two years. He was a direct tor in various insurance companies in this State and was prominent for nearly half a century in the dry-goods FREDERIC IVES.

NEW-HAVEN, Dec. 4 .- Frederic Ives, of the irm of Ives & Miller, axle manufacturers at Mount Carmel, died to-day of typhoid fever. Mr. Ives was presi-

dent of The New-Haven Palladium Newspaper Company, and was interested in many other business enterprises. OBITUARY NOTES. Captain Edward Funk, an old sea-captain, fied on Monday at the house of his sister, Mrs. Newton Squires, No. 215 East One-hundred-and-Fifth-st., at the age of eighty-seven years. He was the son of Captain Nathaniel Funk, an old New-York pilot, and was one of a family of fourteen children, seven of whom commanded packet ships in the Atlantic trade. He was born at the family homestead, which stood on the site of the present No. 76 Fulton-st., on May 15, 1796. When fourteen years of age he left school and went to sea. At nincteen he commanded a packet and was in constant service from then until 1868, when he made a voyage to Liverpool as master of a ship. Inewell. This was his last voyage.

Mrs. Annie Sanford Martindale Purdy, wife of Dr. Alfred S. Purdy, who died on Sunday, was, for nearly twenty years, First Directress of the New-York Female Assistance Society, for the relief of the sick poor. For many years she was a manager of the New-York Fe-male Auxiliary Bible Society, of the New-York Branch of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the McClin-tock Association, and of the Five Points Mission. She will also be remembered as connected with the Soldiers' Relief Association in the work of the hospitals, during the

Policeman Theodore Freund, who had been connected with the police force of this city for thirty-two years, most of which time he spent on duty at Castle Garden, died at his home in Brooklyn yesterday, age

MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Boston, Dec. 4.-Municipal elections were held to-day in nearly all the cities of the State. In Fitch burg, Alonzo Davis, the citizens' candidate, is re-elected Mayor by a vote of 1,315 to 607 for Jabez Fisher, the

In Chelsen Mayor Strahan (Ren.) is re-elected by about 900 plurality over Barnes (Dem.) The entire Board of eight Aldermen is Republican, and the Republicans elect nineteen of the twenty Councilmen. The city voted no

elected by 874 plurality over McIntyre, who headed the "People's" ticket. The vote on the license question is close, but it will probably favor license.

In Tannton, Charles T. Hanson (Ind.) is elected Mayor. The city government is evenly divided politically.

In Springfield, Mayor Phillips (Rep.) is re-elected with a Republican Board of Aldermen. The city votes no license by 294 majority.

JOHN KOLB'S SELF-ACCUSATION.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.-The Chief of Police of New-Brunswick, N. J., arrived here this morning, and after conversation with John Kolb, who yesterday accused himself of murdering a young woman near New-Brunswick, became satisfied that the prisoner is insune. Another conversation was held with Kolb, in which he Another conversation was near with Amanda Finke in the said that he had a dispute with Amanda Finke in the woods on the outs kirts of Perth Amboy, N. J., last June and struck her on the back. The body of a woman, supposed to be his companion, was found near the spot in September, which had evidently been hanged from a tree. The prisoner will be detained pending further investigation by the authorities of Middlesex County, N. J.

CENTENNIAL OF A CONNECTICUT CITY.

MIDDLETOWN, Conn., Dec. 4.-Preparations are making for the celebration of the centent orporation of this city, July 19, 1884. Inasmuch as Middletown was the first town in this country to manufacture cotton, broadcloths and cut nalls, gave to the world the hydraulic ram so valuable to farmers, made the first steamboat propelled on the Connecticut by scuiling oars, instead of revolving paddle wheels, and has sent forth into the world men eminent for learning and is still active in her good work, there is ample excuse for the proposed demonstration.

might be obscured, his colorless, parchment-texture face, clean-shaven save for a stubbly black moustache, his head nearly baid except at the back, where a few stiff black locks shot out in an aggressive way over his coat collar. "They look upon New-York as a magnified Adam's Express Company," he was saying to a Tribune reporter with a singular clearness of enunciation which betokened the actor and a deliberate choice of words due to the habit of mind of the author. It was Dion Boucleault, and he was chatting about his recent tour in the West. He returned from San Francisco on Sunday

Yes, sir," he continued, " New-York is to them simply the agent which transacts their carrying business and the agent which transacts their carrying business and ships their goods. As for its artistic or social influence, they laugh at it. To them Chicago is the metropolis, and their ideas and knowledge of what is going on in the Eastern States are obtained from the Chicago newspapers. They are an intelligent people, however, and I have done better business in small towns, such as Deuver, Laramie, Leadville, and so on, than I ever did in New-York. I frequently had \$1.000 or \$1,500 houses, and that at their regular prices, which are below those of the principal New-York theatres. I have been much gratified in many ways with my tour. I have played in towns which I had searcely ever heard of, and yet I found that it was well known and was received as an old friend by the inhabitants. They are a great people, and ought not to be underrated either politically or socially."

"Were your audiences appreciative!"

be underrated either politically or socially."

"Were your audiences appreciative!"

"As quick, as intelligent and as intellectual as any I have ever played before in New-York. In every way my tour has been a great success."

"Where do you go next?"

"I am on my way to New-Orleans, a city I have not visited for nearly thirty years. I am curfous to see what changes I shall find both in the city itself and its inhabitants.

what enadges I shall had both it the city head and its inhabitants."

"You have had Irving with you since I was here last," Mr. Boucleault went on, "and the story of his success is just what I expected. A little slow to perceive the man's talent at first, New-Yorkers gradually awoke to a sense of its proportions, and before he left the city the houses were overflowing. Mr. Irving is a fine actor, and his stage-management and artistic sense in meunting his plays would alone entitle him to a high place in the regard of the theatre-going public, even if he did not himself appear on his stage."

BONNETS, CIRCULARS AND JERSEYS.

A display of handsome bonnets and suits s now shown by Edward Ridley & Sons, in Grand-st. In the millinery rooms a tiny evening bonnet in white velvet is exhibited, the brim quaintly bent in deep scollops, and the bonnet trimmed with Oriental lace, caught down by the bonnet trimmed with Oriental lace, caught down by pearl pins, and a cluster of snowy tips at the side. The "pocket" bonnet, of velvet or pinsh, is made with a soft crown and a full pleated brim, and is suitable for traveilling or street wear. It is so constructed that it may be folded and carried in the pocket without injury. A large variety of warm winter wraps, lined with fur or with quilted silk, are also shown. Handsone Russian circulars, Radzimir silk, lined with quilted satin, and heavily trimmed with black fur, are shown at \$35. Jersey house waists are offered at greatly reduced prices. Children's jerseys in all colors, in fine wool, are 50 cents each, and laddes' jerseys, which formerly sold at \$2.25, are now selling at \$1.25. Warm Jackets for ladies, of soft worsted, which fit the figure like a jersey, are sold to wear under the outside wrap or for heavy house waist. Without sleeves they are \$1.40, and with sleeves they are \$2.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES-BY TELEGRAPH.

A BARTENDER SHOT IN CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 4.—Early this morning Henry Lammerding, a bar-tender, was fatally shot by Charles Beck, for refusing the latter a drink.

REWARD FOR THE CAPTURE OF BURGLARS.

ALLENTOWN, Penn., Dec. 4.—The store of Landis & Co., at souderton, was robbed last night of silks, furs and other goods valued at \$1,000. A reward of \$5.00 is offered for the recovery of the goods and the arrest of the thieves,

A MURTER IN A CHURCH.

other goods valued at \$1,000. A reward of \$5.00 is offered for the recovery of the goods and the arrest of the thieves. A MURPER IN A CHURCH.

St. Louis, Dec. 4.—In a quarrel saturday night at a church near Cassville, between William C. Biack and William Brown, the latter a son of the clergyman, Flack was stabled four times, killing him instantly. Hrown field.

RALLWAY TRAINS IN COLLISION.

LYNCHBURG, Va., Dec. 4.—An eastern-bound passenger train on the Norfolk and Western italifood came into collision with a freight train near here to day. A negro train, who was stealing a ride, was killed. Engineer Pond, of the passenger train, was fatally naagled. A brakeman and a passenger, names unknown, were sughtly injured.

THE NORTH WORCESTER ACCIDENT.

WORCESTER, Mass., Dec. 4.—Mrs. Amasa G. Davis, age sixty-seven, one of the victims of the Rooton, Barre and Gardiner Failtroad accident, died this norming. Mrs. Holland Marole, of Rodica, is in a dangerous condition.

HANGING A WURDERER IN NEW-MEXICO.

ALBUQUERQUER, N. M., Dec. 4.—One Johnson, who last week shot and killed a cowboy near codidge, N. M., because he had reported him for stealing cattle, was hanged by a mob on Somany night.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Continued From First Page. have like privileges with those of other Powers. While it is the duty of the Government to see that our citizens have the full enjoyment of every benefit secured by treaty, I doubt the expediency of leading in a movement to constrain China to admit an interpretation which we have only an indirect treaty right to exact. The transference to China of American capital for the employment there of Chinese labor would in effect inaugurate a competition for the control of markets now supplied by our home industries.

There is good reason to believe that the law restricting immigration of Chinese has been violated,

rece is good reason to believe that the law re-stricting immigration of Chinese has been violated, intentionally or otherwise, by the officials of China upon whom is devolved the duty of certifying that the immigrants belong to the excepted class. Measures have been taken to ascertain the facts incident to this supposed infraction, and it is believed that the Government of China will co-operate with the United States in securing the faithful observance of the law.

United States in securing the faithful observance of the law.

The same considerations which prompted Congress at its last session to return to Japan the Simonoseki indemnity seem to me to require at its hands like action in respect to the Canton indemnity fund, now amounting to \$300,000.

The question of the general revision of the foreign treaties of Japan has been considered in an international conference at Tokio, but without definite result as yet. This Government is disposed to concede the requests of Japan to determine its own tariff duties, to provide such proper judicial tribunals as may commend themselves to the Western Powers for the trial of causes to which foreigners are parties, and to assimilate the terms and duration of its treaties to those of other civilized States.

THE DARK CONTINENT. Through our Ministers at London and at Monro via, this Government has endeavored to aid Liberia in its differences with Great Britain touching the northwestern boundary of that Republic. There is

a prospect of adjustment of the dispute by the

doption of the Mannah River as the line. This aradoption of the Mannah River as the line. This axrangement is a compromise of the conflicting territorial claims, and takes from Liberia no country over which it has maintained effective jurisdiction.

The rich and populous valley of the Congo is being opened to commerce by a society called the International African Association, of which the King of the Belgians is the President, and a citizen of the United States the chief executive officer. Large tracts of territory have been ceded to the Association by native chief; roads have been opened, steamboats placed on the river, and the nuclei of States established at twenty-two stations, under one flag which ofters freedom to commerce and prohibits flag which offers freedom to commerce and prohibits the slave trade. The objects of the Society are phil the slave trade. The objects of the Society are phil-anthropic. It does not aim at permanent political control, but seeks the neutrality of the valley. The United States cannot be indifferent to this work nor to the interests of their citizens involved in it. It may become advisable for us to co-operate with other commercial Powers in promoting the rights of trade and residence in the Congo Valley free from the interference or political control of any one nation.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES.

In view of the frequency of invitations from foreign Governments to participate in social and scientific congresses for the discussion of important matters of general concern, I repeat the suggestion of my last message, that provision be made for the exercise of discretionary power by the Executive in appointing delegates to such convocations. Able specialists are ready to serve the national interests in such capacity without personal profit or other compensation than the defrayment of expenses actually incurred, and this a comparatively small annual appropriation would suffice to meet.

RETALIATIONS IN FOREIGN TRADE. I have alluded in my previous messages to the inurious and vexatious restrictions suffered by our trade in the Spanish West Indies. Brazil, whose natural outlet for its great national staple, coffee, is in and through the United States, imposes a heavy export duty upon that product. Our petroleum exports are hampered in Turkey and in other Eastern ports are hampered in Turkey and in other Eastern ports by restrictions as to storage and by onerous taxation. For these mischiefs adequate relief is not always afforded by reciprocity treaties like that with Hawaii or that lately negotiated with Mexico and now awaiting the action of the Senate. Is it not advisable to provide some measure of equitable retaliation in our relations with Governments which discriminate against our own?

If, for example, the Executive were empowered to apply to Spanish vessels and cargoes from Cuba and Puerto Rico the same rules of treatment and scale of penalties for technical faults which are applied to our vessels and cargoes in the Antilles, a resort to

penalties for technical faults which are applied to our vessels and cargoes in the Antilles, a resort that course might not be barren of good results. THE NATION'S FINANCES.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury gives a full and interesting exhibit of the financial condition of the country. It shows that the ordinary revenues from all sources for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1883, amounted to \$398,287,581 95; the world the hydraulic ram so valuable to farmers, made the first steamboat propelled on the Connecticut by sculling oars, instead of revolving paddle wheels, and has sent forth into the world men cumbent for learning and is still active in her good work, there is ample excuse for the proposed demonstration.

MR. BOUCICAULTS VIEWS UF THE WEST.

THEATRICAL SUCCESSES IN THE CITIES OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

A man of medium height, dressed in a suit of black, his neck innocent of cravat wherewith the sparkling diamond stud which secured his high standing collar. the military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals, \$48,911,382 93; for the naval establishment, meluding vessels, machinery and improvements at uavy yards, \$15,283,437 17; for miscellaneous expenditures, including public buildings, light-houses, and collecting the revenue, \$40,098,432 73; for expenditures on account of the District of Columbia, \$3,817,028 48; for interest on the public debt, \$59,160,131 25; total, \$265,408,137 54, leaving a sarplus revenue of \$132,879,444 41, which with an amount drawn from the cash balance in the Treasury of \$1,299,312 55, making \$134,178,756 96, was applied to the redemption of bonds for the sinking fund, \$44,850,700; of fractional currency for the sinking fund, \$44,850,700; of fractional currency for the sinking fund, \$44,850,700; of funded loan of 1881, continued at 3½ per cent, \$20,594,600; of funded loan of 1907, \$1,418,850; of funded loan of 1881, \$719,150; of loan of February, 1861, \$18,000; of loan of July and August, 1862, \$10,300; of loan of March, 1863, \$116,850; of loan of July, 1882, \$47,650; of five-twenties of 1862, \$10,300; of five-twenties of 1864, \$7,050; of five-twenties of 1862, \$10,300; of five-twenties of for five-twenties of former and the surface of the surf of loan of July, 1882, \$47,650; of five-twenties of 1862, \$10,300; of five-twenties of 1864, \$7,050; of five-twenties of 1865, \$3,600; of ten-forties of 1861, \$133,550; of consols of 1865, \$40,800; of consols of 1867, \$235,700; of consols of 1868, \$154,650; of Oregon war debt, \$5,450; of refunding certificates, \$109,150; of old demand compound interest and other notes, \$13,300; total, \$134,178,756,96.

REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR. The revenue for the present fiscal year, actual and

Source.	For the quarter ended Sept. 30 1883.	for the remain- ing three quar- ters of the year.
From Customs From Internal Rev	\$57,402,975 67 29,662,078 60	\$137,597,024 33 90,337,921 40
From sales of public lands	2,932,635 17	5,067,364 83
tion and deposits of National Banks From repayments of interest and sinking	1,557,800 88	1,542,199 12
fund Pacific Railway Companies	521,057 51	1,478,949 49
From customs fees, fines, penalties, etc From fees, Consular,	298,696 78	901,303 22
letters patent and lands	863,209 80	2,436,790 20
of Government prop- erty Prom profits on coin-	112,562 23	167,437 77
age, etc	950,229 46	3,149,780 54
From deposits for sur- veying public lands.	172,461 31	327,538 69
From revenues of the District of Columbia	256,017 99	1,643,982 01
From miscellaneous sources	1,237,189 63	2,382,810 37
Total receipts	\$95,966,917 03	\$247,033,082 97

The actual estimated expenses for the same pe-

Object.	For the quarter ended Sept. 30, 1883, actual.	For the remain- ing three quar- ters of the year, estimated.
For civil and miscella- neous, including pub- lic buildings, light- houses, and collect- ing the revenue. For Indians. For pensions. For military establish- ment, including forti-	2,623,390 54 16,285,261 98	\$51,114,200 58 4,126,609 46 53,714,738 02
fications, river and harbor improvem'ts and arsenals For Naval establish- ment, including ves-	13,512,204 33	26,487,795 67
sels and machinery, and improvements at Navy Yards	4,199,299 69	12,300,700 31
account of the Dis- triet of Columbia	1,138,836 41	2,611,163 59
For interest on the public debt	14,797,297 96	39,702,702 04
Total ordinary ex- penditures	67,942,090 33	190,057,909 67
Total receipts, actual and estimated Total expenditures, actual and estimated	\$343,000,000 00 258,000,000 00	
Total Estimated amount due the sinking fund Leaving a balance of	45,818,741 07	

THE SURPLUS REVENUE AND REDUCTION OF THE

DEBT. If the revenue for the fiscal year which will end on June 30, 1885, be estimated upon the basis of existing laws, the Secretary is of the opinion that for that year the receipts will exceed by \$60,000,000 the ordinary expenditures, including the amount devoted to the sinking fund.

Hitherto the surplus as rapidly as it has accumulated has been devoted to the reduction of the Na-

lated has been devoted to the reduction of the National debt. As a result the only bonds now outstanding which are redeemable at the pleasure of the Government are the three per cents, amounting to about \$305,000,000. The four and one-half per cents, amounting to \$250,000,000, and the \$737,000,000 four per cents, are not payable until 1891 and 1907 respectively.

If the surplus shall hereafter be as large as the Treasury estimates now indicate, the three per cent bonds may all be redeemed at least four years before any of the four and one-half per cents can be called in. The latter at the same rate of accumulation of surplus can be paid at maturity and the moneys requisite for the redemption of the four per cents will be in the Treasury many years before those obligations become payable.

be in the Treasury many years before those obligations become payable.

There are cogent reasons, however, why the National indebtedness should not be thus rapidly extinguished. Chief among them is the fact that only
by excessive taxation is such rapidity attainable.
In a communication to the Congress at its last session I recommended that all excise taxes be abolished except those relating to distilled spirits, and
that substantial reductions be also made in the revenues from customs. A statute has since been enacted by which the annual tax and tariff receipts of
the Government have been cut down to the extent acted by which the annual tax and tariff receipts of
the Government have been cut down to the extent
of at least fifty or sixty millions of dollars. While I
have no doubt that still further reductions may be
wisely made, I do not advise the adoption at this
session of any measures for large diminution of the
National revenues. The results of the legislation of
the last session of the Congress have not as yet become sufficiently apparent to justify any radical revision or sweeping modifications of existing law.
In the interval which must elapse before the effects
of the Act of March 3, 1883, can be definitely ascertained, a portion at least of the surplus revenues
may be wisely applied to the long-neglected duty of
rehabilitating our navy and providing coast defences for the protection of our harbors. This is a
matter to which I shall again advert.

THE NATIONAL CURRENCY.

THE NATIONAL CUBRENCY. Immediately associated with the financial subject just discussed is the important question, What legislation is needed regarding the National currency ! The aggregate amount of bonds now on deposit in the Treasury to support the National bank circulation is about \$350,000,000. Nearly \$200,000,000 lation is about \$350,000,000. Nearly \$200,000,000 of this amount consists of three per cents, which, as already stated, are payable at the pleasure of the Government and are likely to be called in within less than four years, unless meantime the surplus revenues shall be diminished. The probable effect of such an extensive retirement of the securities which are the basis of the National bank circulation would be such a contraction of the volume of the currency as to produce grave commercial embarrassments.

which are the basis of the National bank circulation would be such a contraction of the volume of the currency as to produce grave commercial embarrassments.

How can this danger be obviated?

The most effectual plan, and one whose adoption at the earliest practicable opportunity I shall heartily approve, has already been indicated. If the revenues of the next four years shall be kept substantially commensurate with the expenses, the volume of circulation will not be likely to suffer any material disturbance. But if, on the other hand, there shall be great delay in reducing taxation, it will become necessary either to substitute some other form of currency in place of the National bank notes, or to make important changes in the laws by which their circulation is now controlled.

In my judgment the latter course is far preferable. I commend to your attention the very interesting and thoughtful suggestions upon this subject which appear in the Secretary's report. The objections which he urges against the acceptance of any other securities than the obligations of the Government itself as a foundation for National bank circulation seem to me insuperable.

For averting the threatened contraction two courses have been suggested, either of which is probably feasible. One is the issuance of new bonds, having many years to run, bearing a low rate of interest, and exchangeable upon specified terms for those now outstanding. The other course, which commends itself to my judgment as the better, is the enactment of a law repealing the tax on circulation and permitting the banks to issue notes for an amount equal to 90 per cent of the market value instead of as now the face value of their deposited bonds. I agree with the Secretary in the belief that the adoption of this plan would afford the necessary relief.

The trade dollar was coined for the purpose of traffic in countries where silver passed at its value as ascertained by lis weight and fineness. It never had a legal-tender quality. Large numbers of these coins entered

CONSOLIDATION OF CUSTOMS DISTRICTS. The Secretary of the Treasury advises a consolidation of certain of the customs districts of the country, and suggests that the President be vested with such power in relation thereto as is now given him in respect to collectors of Internal Revenue by Section 3,141 of the Revised Statutes. The statistics upon this subject which are contained in his report furnish of themselves a strong argument in defence of his views.

of his views.

At the adjournment of Congress the number of internal revenue collection districts was 126. By Executive order dated June 25, 1883, I directed that certain of these districts be consolidated. The result has been a reduction of one-third their number, which at present is but eighty-three. INDIAN AFFAIRS.

seen that in only a single instance has there been

From the report of the Secretary of War it will be

any disturbance of the quiet condition of our Indian tribes. A raid from Mexico into Arizona was made in March last by a small party of Indians, which was pursued by General Crook into the mountain regions from which it had come. It is confidently hoped that serious outbreaks will not again occur and that the Indian tribes which have for so many years disturbed the West will hereafter remain in peaceable submission.

COAST AND HARBOR DEFNCES.

I again call your attention to the present condition of our extended sea-coast upon which are so many large cities, whose wealth and importance to the country would in time of war invite attack from modern armored ships, against which our existing defensive works could give no adequate protection.

defensive works could give no adequate protection. These works were built before the introduction of modern heavy-rifled gams into maritime warfare, and if they are not put in an efficient condition we may easily be subjected to humiliation by a hostile Power greatly inferior to ourselves.

As germane to this subject, I call your attention to the importance of perfecting our submarine torpedo defences. The board authorized by the last Congress to report upon the method which should be adopted for the manufacture of heavy ordnance adapted to modern warfare, has visited the principal iron and steel works in this country and in Europe. It is hoped that its report will soon be made, and that Congress will thereupon be disposed to provide suitable facilities and plant for the manufacture of such guns as are now imperatively needed.

needed.

On several occasions during the past year officers of the army have, at the request of the State authorities, visited their militra encampments for inspection of the troops. From the reports of these officers I am induced to believe that the encouragement of the State militia organization by the National Government will be followed by very gratifying results, and would afford it, in sudden emergencies, the aid of a large body of volunteers, educated to the performance of military duties. in the performance of military duties.

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE NAVY. The Secretary of the Navy reports that under the authority of the Acts of August 5, 1882, and March 3, 1883, the work of strengthening our Navy by the construction of modern vessels has been auspicionsly begun. Three cruisers are in process of construction-the Chicago, of 4,500 tons displacement, struction—the Chicago, of 4,500 tons displacement, and the Boston and Atlanta, each of 2,500 tons. They are to be built of steel, with the tens of strength and ductility prescribed by law, and in the con-bination of speed, endurance and armament are expected to compare favorably with the best unarmored war vessels of other nations. A fourth vessel, the Dolphin, is to be constructed of similar material, and is intended to serve as a fleet dispatch-

The double-turreted monitors Puritan, Amphitrite and Terror have been launched on the Delawaro River, and a contract has been made for the supply of their machinery. A similar monitor, the Monadmock, has been launched in California. The Naval Advisory Board and the Secretary recommend the completion of the monitors, the construction of four gunbeats, and also of three additional steel vessels like

gunboats, and also of three additional steel vessels like
the Chicago. Boston and Dolphin. As an important
measure of National defence the Secretary urges also
the immediate creation of an interior coast line of
water-ways across the peninsula of Florida, along
the coast from Florida to Hampton Roads, between
the Chesapeake Bay and the Delaware River, and
through Cape Cod.

I feel bound to impress upon the attention of Congress the necessity of continued progress in the reconstruction of the Navy. The condition of the
public Treasury, as I have already intimated, makes
the present an auspicious time for patting this
branch of the service in a state of efficiency. It is
no part of our policy to create and maintain a navy
able to cope with that of the other great Powers of
the world. We have no wish for foreign conquest,

Continued on 5th Page.